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Society of Penkovsky
Papers

June 7, 1976

Mr. George Bush
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

PENKOVSKY PAPERS

Dear Mr. Bush:

As you well know, the CIA has been publicly accused by Mr. Stephen Rosenfeld (in The Washington Post and Herald Tribune (International)), and also in the Diary of the London Times of forging them.

I have been concerned in the controversy from the start, when Victor Zorza made similar suggestions some years ago. I have no inside knowledge of the matter, and simply judged from internal evidence that the book was authentic, or at least that Zorza's objections were without foundation. And since I have now been publicly criticized in the Times, I have a direct interest.

The CIA's interest, it seems to me, must be even stronger. May I urge you very strongly to defend yourself publicly from this extremely damaging allegation. If, as I believe, the material is in fact authentic, it is surely most important that these accusations should not be allowed to stand and fester. Perhaps you could now make the original unedited material available; or at any rate make a formal public statement to the effect that the material is truly attributable to Col. Penkovsky.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Conquest
Robert Conquest